

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 25-29, 31-37, and 39-51 are pending in the application. Claims 1-24, 38, 41, 43 and 47 have been canceled; and claims 42 and 44 are canceled herein.

The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 25-29, 31, 32, 48, 50 and 51 are directed to allowable subject matter.

Cancellation of claims 42 and 44 places the subject application in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be entered.

Rejection of Claims 41 and 44 Under 35 USC § 112, First and Second Paragraphs

It is respectfully submitted that cancellation of claims 42 and 44 renders the grounds of rejection under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph moot. Applicant has canceled the claims merely to expedite prosecution of the application, and reserves the right to present the subject matter encompassed by claims 42 and 44 in a continuation application.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance, an early notification thereof being earnestly solicited.

Application No. 09/464,767

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fee, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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